

## Fleming Fields Recreational Sports Park

The new Fleming Fields Recreational Sports Park, in the Clinton Neighborhood at 32nd Street and Huntington Avenue, expanded outdoor recreation facilities in north Lincoln. The new park includes lighted softball and youth baseball fields, a lighted multi-use sports field, a new park picnic shelter and public restrooms at an expanded Woodside Playground, and about 355 off-street parking stalls.

The City Parks and Recreation Department and UN-L Campus Recreation partnered to develop plans for the park and an operating agreement for use of the park. UN-L Campus Recreation programs will use the fields during the academic year. During the summer months, the Parks and Recreation Department and community groups - including youth and adult, softball and baseball organizations - will use the fields. Joint operation increases use of the facilities and efficiency of operation and maintenance.

Clinton Neighborhood endorsed naming the park after the Fleming Brothers, in recognition of their life work with plant development. As another special touch to honor the brothers, a display garden of hardy landscape plants developed by the Fleming Brothers is located along the Dietrich Trail in the southern part of the park. The display garden includes interpretive signs to explain the plants and their history to viewers.

The University Place and Clinton Neighborhoods reviewed and commented on plans for the park. Neighborhood residents and Dietrich Trail users are especially pleased with the enhancements to Woodside Playground, the new picnic shelter and the new public restrooms. Plus, irrigation of the fields won't draw on the City's drinkable water supply because a well was drilled in the park to irrigate the fields with non-potable water.

Project funding came from many sources, including:

 ▷ City Public Works, Parks and Recreation, and Urban Development Departments,

- ▷ City Land and Water Conservation Fund and Advance Land Acquisiton Fund
- State of Nebraska.
- University of Nebraska Lincoln, and

In-kind contributions came from Fleming Flower Fields (wholesale nursery grower), Seeds of Life (landscape contractor) and Maintain-A-Scape (landscape installation and care).

Because of the project's excellence, Fleming Fields Recreational Sports Park has been nominated for Lincoln's 2005 Community Development Week Award.



For more information about other community development projects in Lincoln, contact the City's Urban Development Department, at 402-441-7606 or email: urbandev@lincoln.ne.gov